

AN ABSTRACT of the PATENT GRANTED BY His Majesty,

For Erecting a Corporation for Relief of the Poor Widows and Children of Clergy-men.

Dat. Jul. 1. A.D. 1678.



HIS Majesty taking Notice that divers Charitable Persons have appeared very forward in Contributing to the Relief of such of the Widows and Children of Loyal Orthodox Clergy-men as are poor, and of the good Effect the same hath had; And taking into his Princely Consideration the great Sufferings of many of the Clergy in England for their Loyalty: Hath been graciously pleased by his Letters Patents, under the Great Seal of England, to Ordain, Constitute and Grant, That the Persons herein after Named, and their Successors (to be Elected as is therein expressed) **Be one Body politick and Corporate, by the Name of, The Governours of the Charity for Relief of the poor Widows and Children of Clergy-men:** And that by the same Name they shall have Perpetual Succession, and be capable to Purchase, Have, or Take Mannors, Lands, and Hereditaments, &c. not exceeding the yearly Value of Two Thousand Pounds; And all manner of Goods and Chattels, and to dispose thereof. And by that Name to plead, and to be impleaded in all Actions, &c. And to act all other Matters and Things as fully as any other Body Politick in this Realm can do: And that the said Governours shall have one Common Seal.

AND His Majesty doth further Grant to the said Governours, That there shall be a President, a Vice-President, three Treasurers, and forty two Assistants, Members of the said Corporation, and that they, or any five of them, (whereof the President, Vice-President, or one of the Treasurers shall be one) shall be called **The Court of Assistants** of the said Corporation, who shall have the management of all the Affairs of the said Corporation, and shall make Laws and Ordinances for the good Government thereof, as well in Matters concerning the Corporation, as in Electing of Officers and management of their Revenues: And impose Penalties on Offenders against the said Laws, and recover the same to the use of the Corporation.

AND His Majesty doth thereby will, that JOHN Lord Bishop of ROCHESTER shall be the first President, Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN the first Vice-President, WILLIAM WREN, JAMES PAUL, and HENRY LOADS, Esquires, the first Treasurers: And FRANCIS Earl of LONGFORD, with others, to the Number of Forty Two, hereafter noted in the List, shall be the first Assistants of the said Corporation, and that they shall continue in their respective Places until the second Thursday in November, 1678. And from thenceforth until there shall be a new Choice made of Persons to succeed them.

AND that on every second Thursday in November for ever (or oftner if there be occasion) a General Assembly of the said Governours shall be had. And the major part of the Members then present may chuse a President, Vice President, three Treasurers, and forty two Assistants, who shall continue for the Year following: And that in case of the death of any of the said Officers within the Year, others may be chosen at a General Assembly into their rooms.

AND that such General Assembly may Elect such other Person or Persons to be Members and Governours of the said Corporation, as they, or the greater part of them shall think fit.

PROVIDED that the said President, Vice-President and Treasurers shall before they enter upon their Places, take their Oaths before the Lord Chancellour, faithfully to Execute their respective Trusts: And that all other the Members of the said Corporation before they act as Assistants, and all succeeding Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Treasurers, Assistants, and all other their inferiour Officers shall take the like Oath before the Persons by the same Patent empowered to administer the same.

AND that the LORD ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY, LORD HIGH CHANCELLOUR of ENGLAND, LORD ARCHBISHOP of YORK, LORD HIGH TREASURER, LORD BISHOP of LONDON, LORD ALMONER, and LORD MAYOR of LONDON for the time being, shall be Visitors of the said Corporation, and settle all differences about the Government thereof, and touching the disposition of their Revenues.

The NAMES of the present GOVERNOURS, being all Sons of Clergy-men.

☞ They that are marked thus [*] are Members of the present Court of Assistants.

A.	H.	S.
<p>Andrew Arfield, D.D. John Arfield, M.D. John Auster, D.D. John Amherst, Esquire. John Archer, Gent. John Annand, Merchant.</p> <p>B.</p> <p>Humphrey Lord Bishop of Bangor. Sir Robert Baldock, Serjeant at Law. Sir John Berry, Knight. * Francis Barrel, Serjeant at Law. George Binjon, D.D. Dean of Hereford.</p> <p>C.</p> <p>Edmund Lord Bishop of Carlisle. * John Lord Bishop of Chester. Sir Herbert Crofts, Baronet. * Sir Samuel Clarke, Knight. Sir George Crooke, Knight. John Cassilian, D.D. Dean of Rochester.</p> <p>D.</p> <p>William Gregory, Serjeant at Law.</p>	<p>Lowd Cordell, Esquire. John Cudworth, B.D. Benjamin Calamy, B.D. Robert Chase, Merchant. Granada Chester, Merchant. * Robert Chapman, Gent. Matthew Copper, Gent. Charles Chappel, Gent. Thomas Crump, Gent. John Crump, Gent.</p> <p>E.</p> <p>* Peter Lord Bishop of Ely. John Echard, D.D. Matthew Elleston, Gent. George Etkins, Gent.</p> <p>F.</p> <p>HENRY Lord Fairfax, Baron of Cameron. Bryan Fairfax, Esquire. Samuel Franklin, Esquire. Samuel Fell, B.D. Samuel Foster, B.D. John Flavell, Gent. Michael Foster, Gent.</p> <p>G.</p> <p>* William Gregory, Serjeant at Law.</p>	<p>* Sir Andrew Hacket, Knight. Sir Thomas Higsons, Knight. William Holder, D.D. Sub-Almoner. John Hall, D.D. Thomas Henchman, Esquire. Henry Hirsch, Esquire. Robert Hide, Esquire. Humphry Henchman, Esquire. Amias Hext, Esquire. Theophilus Hook, B.D. Thomas Howard, Gent. Edward Hassell, Gent. Nathaniel Hornby, Gent. Joseph Hornby, Gent. Francis Holt, Gent.</p> <p>I.</p> <p>Gilbert Ironside, D.D. Henry James, D.D.</p> <p>K.</p> <p>William Killingworth, Esquire. William Knightly, Esquire. * Francis Knollys, Esquire. Captain Henry Killigrew. Richard Kestleby, Gent.</p> <p>L.</p> <p>* FRANCIS Earl of Longford. * William Lord Bishop of Landaff. * William Lloyd, D.D. Dean of Bangor. Edward Layfield, D.D. Richard Leigh of Lyme, Esquire. Hierom Lacey, Esquire. William Lucas, Esquire. Salubriel Lovel, Esquire. Thomas Leagh, Esquire. John Landsey, Esquire. * Henry Loades, Esquire, TREASURER. * Thomas Langham, Gent. * Nathaniel Luddington, Gent. William Leyfield, Gent. James Lovejoy, Gent.</p> <p>M.</p> <p>* Sir Sam. Moreland, Baronet. * Sir Thomas Meeres, Knight.</p>

Since the Grant of the Patent, there are several Gentlemen of worth and quality come to knowledge, who were not then known to be Sons of Clergy-men, and shall be added to the Governours at the General Assembly, which will be in November next.

Now in pursuance of this Pious Design, The Governours of the Charity above mention'd have thought fit hereby to publish this great Favour of His Majesty, Hoping as at the late Yearly Meetings of Clergy-men in the City of London there have been considerable Collections made, by the distribution whereof much redounded to several Poor Widows and Children of Clergy-men, so now in all parts of the Nation greater Contributions will be made for the continual support of such a settled Foundation and Security being established for the due administration of the same.